HOMEGOING CELEBRATION

Stella Mae Chavis

January 23, 1930 - April 16, 2012



Sunday, April 22, 2012 4 p.m. Service Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church 7583 Sparta Pike | Watertown, TN 37184

Pastor Willie E. Cleveland, Officiating

OBITUARY

Born to the late Hershell and Viola Tubbs Smith, in Temperance Hall, TN, Stella got acquainted with God at an early age and was baptized in Watertown, TN, where she was raised.

After meeting and marrying Eddie "Billy" Chavis, she moved briefly to New York, then to Detroit, MI and was a working wife and mother of their two children, Rochelle and Jerome, but still found time to have fun...especially with her "siblings" in the Bass family, who were childhood friends in Watertown and had also moved to Detroit. She and Billy eventually retired and relocated to Watertown, where she was active in the community—from volunteer service to City Council candidate—and remained until God called her home.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her son Jerome Chavis (Atlanta, GA); daughter Rochelle Chavis (Los Angeles, CA); granddaughter Sommer Woods (Detroit, MI) and grandson Aaron Chavis (San Francisco, CA); sister Francis (Smith) Avery (Detroit, MI); foster sister Maxine (Harris) Bruce (Detroit, MI) and foster brother John D. Harris, Jr. (Lebanon, TN); a host of treasured family members and friends, including Jo Doris Pride (Lebanon, TN), Steven and Jenny Smith (Watertown, TN), Paulette King (Watertown, TN), Chartise Vantrease (Watertown, TN), Joyce Frazier (Dallas, TX), Debra McClain (Murfreesboro, TN), Talona Humbert (Atlanta, GA), Rita Bates (Murfreesboro, TN) and Family Staffing Solutions, as well as her church families at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist and Dowell Chapel United Methodist churches.

Stella was preceded in death by her loving husband of 43 years, Billy; sisters Lois (Smith) Lawrence, Corinne (Smith) Muirhead and Dorothy Jean Smith; brothers Odell Smith and Leon Smith; foster sister Darlene (Harris) Roy and foster brother Ben Harris.

I Am Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free I'm following the path God laid for me. I took His hand when I heard Him call; I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way;
I found that place at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void, Then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared a laugh, a kiss; Ah yes, these things, I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much;
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seems all to brief; Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart and share with me, God wanted me now, He set me free.

Anonymous

ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL

MUSICAL SELECTION Mildred Bailey
SCRIPTURE
MUSICAL SELECTION Mt. Zion Choir
PRAYER Deacon Carl Bailey
MUSICAL SELECTION Mt. Zion Choir
READING"I Am Free"
MUSICAL SELECTION Mt. Zion Choir
REFLECTIONS
MUSICAL SELECTION Mt. Zion Choir
READING "I Shall Rise Again"
SOLO Pastor Willie Cleveland
SCRIPTURE Pastor Andray Clemons
MUSICAL SELECTION Mt. Zion Choir
THE LORD'S PRAYER
PARTING VIEW
BENEDICTION
RECESSIONAL

I am the resurrection and the life: He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die St. John 11:25-26



Glorious Exchange

I brought Him all my sorrow
And all my falling tears;
I brought Him all my loneliness
And all the wasted years.
He took them all upon Himself,
With all my load of sin,
And gave me in exchange His love,
His joy, His peace within.
He took away my sorrow
And gave me back a song,
And now my heart can only praise
My Savior all day long.

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Anonymous

PALLBEARERS

Family & Friends

FLOWER BEARERS

Family & Friends

ENTOMBMENT

Wilson County Memorial Park 618 S. Maple Ave. | Lebanon, TN 37087

REPAST

Dowell Chapel United Methodist Church 107 Linwood Rd. | Watertown, TN 37184

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO

Neuble Monument Funeral Home, LLC 1330 Bluebird Rd. | Lebanon, TN 37087 (www.neublemonumentfuneralhome.com)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF APPRECIATION

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and expressions of kindness and concern shown during our time of bereavement. A more personal acknowledgment will be made at a later time.